

Bell Street Chapel Board Meeting on Jan. 8, 2024

Present: Dennise Kowalczyk, Ellen Smith, Ellen Kellner, Greg Greco, Bridget Eileen Maddon

Minutes: Ellen S. moved to approve the Dec. 11 minutes. Bridget seconded. Minutes approved.

Action Item: **Dennise** will train Ellen K to send out meeting reminders.

Action Items from December meeting;

Dennise emailed Gayle about hiring a handyman and is waiting for the handyman to call her.

Dennise sent email to Board with Ray's new email account (worshipbsc@gmail.com.)

Bridget reported that she and Dennise found old security cameras obsolete and will investigate another option for security cameras.

Greg confirmed tax support paychex is free, requiring no action.

Dennise and Ellen S. sent letters out to see which members want to remain active.

Bridget got quotes on graffiti removal for historical buildings. She got an estimate of \$722.25 from Tee Cee Power Blaster and has made an appointment for Serve Pro to visit BSC during Dennise's office hours to provide another estimate on Jan, 14.

Dennise is waiting to hear from Water Service Rental about renting a drinking water service and Robbie has agreed to transport and discard half empty paint cans in Eddy Hall.

Sam Bell's community meeting is on the online calendar for Feb. 1.

Treasurer's Report: We are actually \$16,000 in the black with the recent quarterly James Eddy Trust deposit (\$24,508) this past week. Ellen K. moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Bridget seconded. Board voted in favor of acceptance. Greg will present his budget proposal for the next fiscal year at the April board meeting.

Old/New Business: Legacy elevator representative will come next Tuesday to troubleshoot the recent elevator malfunction. **Action Item:** **Bridget** agreed to work on restoring the function of the chair lift. Poor lighting in Eddy Hall. Plexiglas outside windows are cloudy and keep light out. We will find out about replacing them when meeting with handyman. Sensor in the boiler room activated due to cold temps. A space heater in the boiler room will solve the problem.

Action Item: **Dennise** will check in with Nancy to find out status on spacer heater in boiler room. **New water heater needed in kitchen.** Robbie and Nancy have spoken about getting a new water heater as per the plumber's suggestion. Dennise working with both on options.

Safety and Security Protocols: Board not in favor of locking the door once service begins. A fire drill, on the other hand, is needed, particularly making a plan for getting everyone out of the building safely, especially those who may need special assistance when the lift/chair are not available. **Action Item:** **Dennise** will ask Ray to announce fire exits in the welcome at the beginning of services and share announcement that we are working on a protocol.

Pledge Drive: **Action Item:** **Ellen S.** will contact Meredyth and Nancy to come Feb. 12 and talk about the pledge drive.

Rhode Island Black Storytellers are designated to receive "Share the Plate" in February.

Board/Staff Retreat (with Ray, Kristi, and Clara) Start thinking about planning an August retreat in August.

Bell Street Picnic: Dexter Park eliminated because there are no bathrooms. Side of church is a possibility and has been used in the past. Will revisit later.

Semi-Annual Meeting: Will cancel 2/2 service and Bell Street will underwrite lunch. **Action Item:** Ellen K. will pick up lunch if she is able to attend the meeting. **Action Item:** Dennise will advise Ray, Kristi, and Mark there will be no service on Feb. 2 for the semi-annual meeting and will ask Michelle to stay a half hour later for childcare. **Action Item:** Ellen K. will confirm whether she can attend the semi-annual meeting. If not, she will find someone else to take minutes at the meeting and confirm quorum.

Cider & Offertory

2/9 Ellen S.

2/16 Ellen K.

2/23 Greg

Next Meeting: Ellen S. will chair the meeting in Dennise's absence on Feb 12 at 7 PM on ZOOM.

Adjournment: Bridget moved to adjourn meeting. Greg seconded. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:08.